## **Calaveras County Schools: Mental Health Protocols for Traumatic Events**

## **Preparation**

- 1. In order to develop a consistent language and approach in crisis situations, all mental health and other appropriate personnel will receive the two-day PREPaRE training, "Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The Roles of the School-Based Mental Health Professional." CCOE will host this training during the 2015-16 school year.
- 2. Districts will research, develop and/or share appropriate mental health resources to support families and students, and make these resources available on their websites as well as links to other available resources.

## Response

- 1. External (public/media) communication will be managed by the District Superintendent. Visiting media will be escorted while on campus and provided with information on the dangers of intrusive coverage and considerations for responsible coverage. ("As You Enter Our Campus" document)
- 2. Internal (school) situation will be managed by the Site Administrator. The Site Administrator and School Counselor will determine whether additional outside mental health support is needed. School resources may include peer counselors and other peer support groups. There should be supervised support for these students to avoid secondary trauma. If additional support is needed:

  CUSD: Site Admin will contact District Special Education Director (Jan Kendall), who will contact

**CUSD:** Site Admin will contact District Special Education Director (Jan Kendall), who will contact Special Ed Program Manager\* at CCOE.

**BHUHSD:** School Counselor will contact Special Ed Program Manager\* at CCOE.

MTUESD: Site Admin will contact Special Ed Program Manager\* CCOE and notify Superintendent.

**VUSD:** Site Admin or District Counselor will contact Special Ed Program Manager\* at CCOE.

**CCOE:** Site Admin or Counselor will contact Special Ed Program Manager\* at CCOE.

\*For the 2015-16 School Year, this person is Andria Tiquet

- a. Andria Tiquet will activate additional counselor and psychologist support as appropriate.
- b. Andria will alert CCOE Youth Development Director Kathryn Eustis, who will assist the site admin/counselor in connecting with county and community resources.
- 3. As quickly as possible (within a week or two,) the school environment will be transitioned back to a neutral state to prevent additional trauma to students. Banners, signs, tributes, and memorials will be removed from school property, and may be given to students, families, or community members to install elsewhere.
- 4. Traumatized and grieving school community members will be supported individually by school mental health professionals and referred (with a warm hand-off) to outside community resources such as private counselors, county mental health dept, Grief Busters, Live On, faith-based organizations, and parent support groups for continuing services and support. Staff can be referred to EAP and other resources, and supported one-on-one.